

MENOPON NITZSCH, 1818 (INSECTA, MALLOPHAGA) AND RELATED
NAMES; APPLICATION FOR ADDITION TO OFFICIAL LISTS.
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An application which we are making to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature simultaneously with this one entails a proposal that the family-name TRINOTONIDAE Eichler, 1941 (*Arch. Naturgesch.* (N.F.) 10 : 382) should be placed on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology, but it is undesirable that this should be done without consideration of the much senior names MENOPONIDAE Mjöberg, 1910 (*Ark. Zool.* 6(13) : 26) and LIOTHEIDAE Burmeister, 1838 (*Handb. Ent.* 2(2) : 436), particularly because many authors consider that these three names all refer to the same family.

2. The type-genus of MENOPONIDAE is *Menopon* Nitzsch, 1818 (*Mag. Ent.* (Germar) 3 : 299, as a subgenus of *Liotheum* Nitzsch, 1818, l.c. : 296), and the type-species of *Menopon* is, by subsequent designation (Johnston & Harrison, 1911, *Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.* 36 : 327) "*M. gallinae* L. (syns. : *M. trigonocepalum* Olfers, *M. pallidum* N.)". Of the names quoted by Johnston & Harrison, *Pediculus gallinae* Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) 1 : 613) was not mentioned by Nitzsch under that authorship or reference, but his *Liotheum* (*Menopon*) *pallidum* (l.c. : 299) has no description and no indication other than references to "*Pulex Capi* Red. exp. XVII" and "*Ped. gallinae* Panz. Faun. Ins. Germ. 51. f. 21". The former reference is a slip, since the plate in the Latin edition of Redi's work (1671, *Experimenta circa Generationem Insectorum*) which depicts an insect called *Pulex capi* is XVI, but there is nothing to suggest that the insect shown is different from *Pediculus gallinae* as depicted by Panzer (1793, *Fauna insectorum Germanicae initia* Heft 51 : 21). Panzer, however, attributed the name *gallinae* to Fabricius (1775, *Systema Entomologiae* : 809) and the latter author not only referred it to Linnaeus but his description is quoted from Linnaeus, 1758 (*Syst. Nat.* (ed. X) 1 : 613). *Liotheum* (*Menopon*) *pallidum* Nitzsch, 1818, therefore includes the species indicated by the unavailable (because pre-1758) name *Pulex capi* Redi and by *Pediculus gallinae* Linnaeus, 1758. We hereby restrict *Liotheum pallidum* Nitzsch, 1818 to his second reference, thus making the name an objective synonym of *Menopon gallinae* (Linnaeus, 1758). The citation by Johnston & Harrison of this latter as the type-species of *Menopon* is then valid under Declaration 21.

3. The type-material of *Menopon gallinae* (Linnaeus) is lost and the species is not recognizable with certainty from the description. Clay & Hopkins (1950, *Bull. Brit. Mus. (nat. Hist.)*, *Ent.* 1 : 262) designated, described and figured as neotype of this nominal species a specimen of the species to which the name is usually applied. This specimen is in the British Museum (Natural History) and is labelled "NEOTYPE ♂ *Menopon gallinae* (Linn.), Brit. Mus. 1951.171, Meinertzhagen, *Gallus domesticus*, Ross-shire, Scotland, Jan. 1935,

2490". Clay & Hopkins also endeavoured (*l.c.*) to put the synonymy on a firm basis by designating a similar specimen as neotype of *Menopon pallidum* (Nitzsch), but the restriction, made above, has resulted in the two names becoming objective synonyms, so the neotype of one nominal species is automatically also neotype of the other.

4. The type-genus of the family-group taxon LIOTHEIDAE Burmeister, 1838, is *Liotheum* Nitzsch, 1818 (*Mag. Ent.* (Germa) 3 : 296). No nominal species were included directly under this name by Nitzsch, but he divided the genus into subgenera (all now regarded as genera) and listed under these latter headings a number of specific names of which most are *nomina nuda* whereas others have indications in the form of references to earlier descriptions and are available, though very few are valid. This has caused immense trouble and confusion, because nearly all subsequent authors took one of two erroneous views—either that all the specific names published by Nitzsch in his 1818 paper were valid or that all of them were *nomina nuda*—and this has resulted in a number of invalid type-selections for his genera. In particular, Neumann (1906, *Bull. Soc. zool. Fr.* 20 : 58) purported to select "*Liotheum* (*Colpocephalum*) *zebra* Nitzsch" as type-species of *Liotheum*, but his action was nugatory because *zebra* was a *nomen nudum* in 1818 (the species to which it was presumably intended to refer was first described by Burmeister in 1838, *Handb. Ent.* 2(2) : 438) while other specific names referred to *Liotheum* by Nitzsch in 1818 were available. Although a few attempts have been made to use the name *Liotheum* as a senior synonym of *Colpocephalum* Nitzsch, 1818 (of which *Colpocephalum zebra* Burmeister, 1838 is the type-species) *Liotheum* has never been used in any important publication and is now disused; it would not be possible to select any available nominal species as its type without displacing either *Menopon* or some other equally well-known name which is in current use. By Opinion 342, *Colpocephalum* Nitzsch, 1818, was placed on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology as No. 850, and *Colpocephalum zebra* Burmeister, 1838 on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology as No. 460. Grave confusion would result, without any compensating advantage, from the revival of the disused names *Liotheum* Nitzsch, 1818 and LIOTHEIDAE Burmeister, 1838, but no inconvenience would result from their suppression.

5. Two erroneous subsequent spellings of *Menopon* require to be dealt with, of which one (*Menopum* Neumann, 1906, *Bull. Soc. zool. Fr.* 20 : 59) is entirely uncomplicated, while the other is troublesome. Harrison (1916, *Parasitology* 9 : 22) has an entry "*Maenopon* Packard, 6th Ann. Rept. U.S. Geol. Survey, 1872, p. 731, = *Menopon* Nitzsch". Examination of the work referred to (which was published in 1873) shows, however, that neither on p. 731 nor anywhere else in the paper does Packard spell the name *Menopon* other than correctly, while we have been unable to find the alleged misspelling in any of the numerous works published by Packard and others at about that period which we have consulted, and it is not included either in Neave's *Nomenclator Zoologicus* or in Sherborn's *Index Animalium*.

6. We therefore request the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature :—

(1) to use its plenary powers to suppress the generic name *Liotheum*

- Nitzsch, 1818 (*Mag. Ent.* (German) **3** : 296) for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy ;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following generic name :
- Menopon* Nitzsch, 1818, *Mag. Ent.* (German) **3** : 299 (gender : neuter) (type-species, by subsequent designation by Johnston & Harrison (1911, *Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.* **36** : 327) *Pediculus gallinae* Linnaeus, 1758) ;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following specific name :
- gallinae* Linnaeus, 1758, *Syst. Nat.* (ed. 10) **1** : 613, as published in the binomen *Pediculus gallinae* and as defined by the neotype described and figured by Clay & Hopkins, 1950 (*Bull. Brit. Mus. (Nat. Hist.)*, *Ent.* **1** : 262, fig. 56) (specific name of type-species of *Menopon* Nitzsch, 1818 ;
- (4) to place on the Official List of Family-Group Names in Zoology the following name :
- MENOPONIDAE Mjöberg, 1910, *Ark. Zool.* **6**(13) : 26 (type-genus *Menopon* Nitzsch, 1818) (for use by those zoologists who consider that *Menopon* Nitzsch, 1818, *Trinoton* Nitzsch, 1818, and *Eureum* Nitzsch, 1818 all belong to the same family) ;
- (5) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the following generic names :
- (a) *Liotheum* Nitzsch, 1818, *Mag. Ent.* (German) **3** : 296 (suppressed under the plenary powers for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy) ;
- (b) *Menopum* Neumann, 1906, *Bull. Soc. zool. Fr.* **20** : 59 (an erroneous subsequent spelling for *Menopon* Nitzsch, 1818) ;
- (c) *Maenopon* Packard, 1873, *Rep. U.S. geol. Surv.* **6** : 731 (an alleged, but non-existent name, Packard having used the spelling *Menopon* in the work referred to) ;
- (d) *Maenopon* Harrison, 1916, *Parasitology* **9** : 22 (an erroneous subsequent spelling for *Menopon* Nitzsch, 1818) ;
- (6) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Family-Group Names in Zoology the following name :
- LIOTHEIDAE Burmeister, 1838, *Handb. Ent.* **2**(2) : 436 (invalid because the name of its type-genus : *Liotheum* Nitzsch, 1818, is suppressed under the Plenary Powers in (1) above ;
- (7) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the following name :
- pallidum* Nitzsch, 1818, *Mag. Ent.* (German) **3** : 299, as published in the binomen *Liotheum pallidum* (a junior objective synonym of *Pediculus gallinae* Linnaeus, 1758).